

Claim Amendments:

Please amend claims 1, 8 and 12 as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

✓

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A system used to perform an ophthalmic procedure on a cornea of a patient, comprising:
a patient support that can support the patient;
a light source that can direct a light beam onto the cornea of the patient; and,
an air flow module that can direct a flow of air above the cornea of the patient, at a distance so that the cornea is not dehydrated by the flow of air.

✓

Claim 2 (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a portable stand that supports said airflow module.

✓

Claim 3 (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a control console that is coupled to said airflow module.

✓

Claim 4 (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said patient support includes a table.

✓

Claim 5 (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said light source includes a laser.

✓

Claim 6 (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said airflow module creates a laminar flow of air.

✓

Claim 7 (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said airflow module includes an adjustable blade.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) A system used to perform an ophthalmic procedure on a cornea of a patient, comprising:

a patient support that can support the patient;

a laser that can direct a light beam onto the cornea of the patient;

an air flow module that can direct a flow of air above the cornea of the patient, at a distance so that the cornea is not dehydrated by the flow of air;

a portable stand that supports said air flow module; and,

a control console that is coupled to said airflow module.

Claim 9 (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein said patient support includes a table.

Claim 10 (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein said airflow module creates a laminar flow of air.

Claim 11 (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein said airflow module includes an adjustable blade.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended) A method for performing an ophthalmic procedure on a cornea of a patient, comprising:

directing a flow of air above the cornea, at a distance so that the cornea is not dehydrated by the flow of air;

creating a flap in the cornea;

moving the flap to expose a portion of the cornea;

ablating a portion of the exposed cornea with a laser beam; and,

moving the flap back onto the cornea.

Burke C. H.

Claim 13 (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising adjusting a flowrate of the flow of air.

Claim 14 (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising adjusting a direction of the flow of air.